5 March 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT : Material for PSB Luncheon re Brainwashing

1. Two meetings have been called by you on this subject, the first on Saturday morning, 28 February, and the second on Tuesday morning, 3 March. In addition to CIA, the meetings were attended by resentatives of the PSB staff, Department of State, Department of Defense, the Army (Gen. McClure's office), and the Air Force (PW office).

2. The main purpose 25% 1the two meetings was to explore available facts and to obtain reactions to the possibility of forming a medical or scientific, or combined group, to examine the facts and issue a statement regarding the feasibility of brainwashing procedures.

3. At the 3 March meeting the movie, "Documentary Evidence of the International Scientific Commission for the Investigation of U.S. Bacteriological Warfare", was shown almost in its entirety, but particular attention was called to the confessions of the four U.S. Army fliers,

tion, at both meetings there was some discussion of the recent confessions of the two Marine Corps fliers,

These confessions were read over the Peiping radio and we had the transcripts at the meetings. Since the meetings, it has been established that the confessions were in fact read and were not as suggested, tape recordings of the voices of the two Marine officers. At the end of the second meeting the fol
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would immediately start to form a group of doctors, numbering 5 or 6 at the most, and consisting mainly of Americans but including other nationalities if desirable. Speed not only in forming the committee, but having it reach some useful conclusions, was recognized. Names suggested by Tr. Brook ware:

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b. As soon as this group is formed all available facts will be presented to it including the film, evidence from the persent of Defense, and names of persons who have been

c. An interdepartmental working 5x10 was formed consisting of representatives of PSB (, Chairman, Tefense (William Godel), State (Mr. Ritter in Mr. Phillips' office), and CIA . The primary concern of this group is to collect all available facts and to prepare itself to service group when formed.

- d. State and Defense were to consider an appropriate statement for release in the near future and to make recommendations as to the appropriate person, agency, or department to make the release. This statement is being cleared through my office Thursday morning and will be immediately transmitted to you in time for your luncheon.
- l_i . Additional issues which you may wish to consider for discussion:
 - a. 25×1 or the material which might be relevant to the work of committee may be consisted, and some of it may be highly sensitive. PSB may wish to determine who should decide whether or not such material should in fact be presented.
 - b. As a report, you might wish to state that a quick search of CIA shows little scientific evidence in support of brainwashing, but rather massive evidence in the form of case reports or circumstantial evidence leading to the conclusion that it is not a difficult matter given the time to force almost anyone to make an inaccurate statement, provided that the time at which the statement is to be made can be controlled and the individual is not required to continue his willingness to lie for a long period.

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c. An important issue for PSB is presented by b above, namely, to what extent does it wish to consider through the committee the length of time for which brainwashing may be effective. It would seem that the evidence on this point is inconclusive and might, therefore, require a long period of consideration before any answer could be attempted. My suggestion would be to eliminate this point unless it can be determined within a reasonably short period of time, and suggestion to continue the committee in being for consideration of this subject over an indefinite term.

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Chief

Political and Psychological Warfare

Approved For

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

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